

20. (Amended) A method for forming a clearing trap, the method comprising;
selecting a housing having a void configured to receive a bullet deceleration chamber and an
open end through which a bullet passes;
selecting a bullet deceleration chamber; and
sliding the bullet deceleration chamber through the open end and into the void configured
to receive the bullet [configuration] deceleration chamber.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the method [former] further
comprises forming a face plate at one end of the housing or insert.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated December 3, 2001, the Examiner rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, and rejected claims 1-7 and 10-25 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 based on Fumero and Duer.

Applicant has amended claim 21 to resolve the indefiniteness. Claims 1, 14 and 20 have been amended to clarify the invention.

With respect to claim 1, Applicant submits the claim is in condition for allowance. Neither Fumero, nor Duer teach an insert which has an opening for receiving a gun barrel and is formed of a bullet decelerating material. Fumero teaches a bullet decelerating material which is disposed at the end of a series of baffles which are not removed from the device. Even if the

baffles could be removed for replacement, they would not form part of the insert. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable over Fumero.

Duer teaches a bullet deceleration chamber with a wire screen which is drawn through the bullet deceleration material to remove bullets. The wire screen does not fall within the definition of an insert as set forth in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 should be allowed.

With respect to claim 14, Applicant submits that the claim is allowable over the prior art. from one end to the other. Both Fumero and Duer lack a continuous, removable bullet deceleration insert as set forth in the claim. Therefore, claim 14 and all claims dependent thereon should be allowed.

Turning now to claim 20, neither piece of prior art relied upon by the Examiner teaches sliding a bullet deceleration chamber into a housing having an open end through which a bullet travels. Therefore, claim 20 and all claims depending thereon should be allowed.

Should the Examiner determine that any additional adverse action is necessary, it is requested that he contact Applicant's attorney at (801) 478-0071 so that such matters may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or debit any amount owing in association with this file to Account No. 50-881.

Please note that effective March 1, 2002, the contact information for Applicant's counsel will change as follows:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall B. Bateman", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

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